

29 October 2020

Mr Sam Hill

By email to: [fyi-request-14001-3fd20d36@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-14001-3fd20d36@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Mr Sam Hill

**OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2020/41 – CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF CANDIDATES AT THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION**

On 19 October 2020 you requested the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) from the Department of Internal Affairs:

*Please advise of the citizenship status (including dual citizenship) of the following candidates who have been preliminarily elected to the 53rd Parliament of New Zealand.*

*New Zealand Labour Party*

*Jacinda Ardern  
Kelvin Davis  
Grant Robertson  
Phil Twyford  
Megan Woods  
Chris Hipkins  
Andrew Little  
Carmel Sepuloni  
David Parker  
Nanaia Mahuta  
Trevor Mallard  
Stuart Nash  
Jenny Salesa  
Damien O'Connor  
Kris Faafoi  
David Clark  
Ayesha Verrall  
Peeni Henare  
Willie Jackson  
William Sio  
Poto Williams  
Vanushi Walters  
Michael Wood*

*Adrian Rurawhe  
Kiri Allan  
Kieran McAnulty  
Louisa Wall  
Meka Whaitiri  
Rino Tirikatene  
Camilla Belich  
Priyanca Radhakrishnan  
Jan Tinetti  
Deborah Russell  
Marja Lubeck  
Angie Warren-Clark  
Willow-Jean Prime  
Tamati Coffey  
Naisi Chen  
Jo Luxton  
Jamie Strange  
Liz Craig  
Ibrahim Omer  
Duncan Webb  
Anahila Kanongata'a-Suisuiki  
Ginny Andersen  
Rachel Brooking  
Paul Eagle  
Helen White  
Barbara Edmonds  
Angela Roberts  
Shanan Halbert  
Neru Leavasa  
Tracey McLellan  
Steph Lewis  
Rachel Boyack  
Arena Williams  
Ingrid Leary  
Sarah Pallett  
Gaurav Sharma  
Terisa Ngobi  
Glen Bennett  
Greg O'Connor  
Tangi Utikere  
Anna Lorck*

*New Zealand National Party*

*Judith Collins  
Gerry Brownlee  
Paul Goldsmith  
Simon Bridges  
Shane Reti  
Todd McClay  
Chris Bishop*

*Todd Muller  
Louise Upston  
Scott Simpson  
David Bennett  
Michael Woodhouse  
Nicola Willis  
Jacqui Dean  
Mark Mitchell  
Melissa Lee  
Andrew Bayly  
Nick Smith  
Maureen Pugh  
Barbara Kuriger  
Matthew Doocey  
Stuart Smith  
Denise Lee  
Simon O'Connor  
Simeon Brown  
Ian McKelvie  
Erica Stanford  
Matt King  
Chris Penk  
Tim van de Molen  
Nicola Grigg  
Christopher Luxon  
Joseph Mooney  
Penny Simmonds  
Simon Watts*

*ACT New Zealand*

*David Seymour  
Brooke van Velden  
Nicole McKee  
Chris Baillie  
Simon Court  
James McDowall  
Karen Chhour  
Mark Cameron  
Toni Severin  
Damien Smith*

*Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand*

*Marama Davidson  
James Shaw  
Chloe Swarbrick  
Julie Anne Genter  
Jan Logie  
Eugenie Sage  
Golriz Ghahraman*

*Teanau Tuiono*  
*Elizabeth Kerekere*  
*Ricardo Menéndez March*

*Māori Party*

*Rawiri Waititi*

The Department of Internal Affairs transferred your request to the Electoral Commission on 19 October 2020 in accordance with section 14(b)(ii) of the Act on the basis that confirming the eligibility of elected officials is believed to be more closely related to the functions of the Electoral Commission.

During the candidate nomination process for the 2020 General Election, all candidates confirmed their eligibility to be nominated by completing and signing a consent to candidate nomination form in which they confirmed that they are a New Zealand citizen. All party secretaries bulk nominating their candidates and submitting a party list also completed and signed a declaration confirming that all of the candidates included in their bulk nomination of candidates and their party list are qualified to be a candidate and to be elected a member of Parliament.

On their consent to nomination form, every electorate and list candidate is required to indicate their country of birth. All candidates born overseas were required to provide evidence of New Zealand citizenship with their nomination in the form of a copy of their New Zealand passport or a copy of their certificate of citizenship. All candidates did so prior to the close of nominations.

The Electoral Commission does not hold information on whether any of the above candidates have dual citizenship.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the response to your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kristina Temel', written in a cursive style.

Kristina Temel  
Electoral Commission